

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [00011] as follows:

[00011] Francisella tularensis is the bacterium that causes Tularemia, a disease that can be fatal if not detected and treated with appropriate antibiotics. The symptoms of Tularemia “could include sudden fever, chills, headaches, muscle aches, joint pain, dry cough, progressive weakness, and pneumonia”, this information can be found ~~at the internet address www.bt.cdc.gov/documents/app/FactSheet/Tularemia/about.asp at the CDC website.~~ It is on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) list of possible bacteria that has potential as a biological warfare weapon. The CDC has developed a list of possible pathogens that may be used as weapons of mass destruction. Francisella tularensis has been listed in Category A of possible diseases and agents. Those diseases and agents in Category A are considered a high risk to national security because they “can be easily disseminated or transmitted from person to person; result in high mortality rates and have the potential for major public health impact; might cause public panic and social disruption; and require special action for public health preparedness” ~~;- this information can be found at the internet address www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/agentlist-category.asp.~~ as quoted at the CDC website.